Cut in allocation for plan projects

3066. SHRI JIBON ROY:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the allocations for the plan projects have been slashed for the year 2003-04.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the major projects affected by the cut; and

(c) what would be its impact on the economic growth of the country and the projected targets set in the five year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir. The Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) for Central Plan has been increased to Rs. 721.60 crore (BE) in 2003-04 from Rs. 66870.92 crore (BE) in 2002-03 and Central Assistance for States and UT's has been increased to Rs. 48822.40 crore (BE) in 2003-04 crore from Rs. 46629.08 crore in 2002-03 (BE).

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Drunken driving

3067. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether over the past decade the number of rash, negligent and drunken driving with instant deaths is comparatively higher between the younger age group of 21-34 years;

(b) whether according to Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 driving with a Blood-Alcohol Concentration (BAC) of 30 mg in 100 ml of blood is illegal while in USA and many countries in Europe, the limit is stricter at 8 mg:

(c) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to make the law more stricter by imposing severe punishment to offenders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) No such specific data are collected by this Ministry.

(b) Under Section 185 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, driving or attempting to drive with alcohol concentrationof 30 mg per 100 ml of blood is an offence. As per the information available in this Ministry, the limit prescribed in India under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 is stricter than that in Canada, U.K. and many other European countries.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Amendment of Motor Vehicles Act is a continuous process. The Act is amended whenever such a requirement is felt.

Electronic registration system for vehicles

3068. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Motor Vehicles Rules have been amended on the 31st May, 2002 for implementation of the recommendations of an Apex Committee to introduce electronic registration system on single microprocessor chip smart card;

(b) whether it is a fact that the approved technology by the Apex Committee was a single microprocessor chip for retgistration certificates, driving licences and permit purposes;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether the State Governments have the authority to override the Central Government's recommendation and the Central Motor Vehicles Rules to introduce Vehicle Registration Certificates of their choice; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The notification issued on 31.5.2002 defines Smart Card as a device capable of storing data and executing commands, which is a single chip microprocessor, mounted on a plastic card and